

COUNTRY East Germany SECURITY INFORMATION REPORT NO.

TOPIC General Military Information

EVALUATION see below PLACE OBTAINED  25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED  DATE PREPARED 29 July 1953

REFERENCES 2

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 1 July 1953, about 100 vehicles, including tanks, AA guns, armored scout cars, trucks and sedans were unloaded from 50 railroad cars at the spur track of Brandis airfield. The unloaded vehicles left toward Altenhain via Polanz. <sup>1</sup>
  2. At about 8 a.m. on 5 July, a shipment of 3 flatcars with sideracks, carrying timber; 5 boxcars occupied by troops wearing black-bordered crimson and black-bordered black epaulets; and 35 flatcars with sideracks carrying trucks towing trailers with pontoons  12 large amphibious vehicles, and 6 to 8 small amphibious vehicles,  passed through Bernburg, proceeding toward Halle.
  3. At 11 a.m. on 6 July, an advanced combat practice firing was held, in which units from the Mehnert factory and the MVD Kaserne Frohnau participated. About 500 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets advanced southward toward Baerensteinerstrasse, where they joined about 350 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets and bivouacked on the railroad line east of Baerensteinerstrasse. The troops wore gasmasks, were armed with rifles and carried rolled blankets. Trucks  were on Baerensteinerstrasse.
  4. Between 25 June and 9 July, the barracks installation in Meissen-Zaschendorf was occupied by a guard detail of about 30 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with signal insignia. The barracks gate was closed and guarded by a sentry. The watchtower was unoccupied. <sup>4</sup> On 9 July, truck  loaded with telegraph poles was seen at the entrance. The driver wore red-bordered black epaulets. <sup>5</sup>

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25X1A 1. [ ] Comment. The unloadings may have been connected with the air landing exercises between the Brandis and Erfurt airfields, which, according to other sources, were held between 18 June and 8 July. Same source, on 28 June, reported 1,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tanks, AA guns and guns southeast of Brandis airfield. See [ ]

25X1A 2. [ ] Comment. This observation again confirms the departure presumably to the Kindel troop training grounds of elements of the 67th Engr Bn (US) of the 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div from the Aken area. [ ]

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25X1A 3. [ ] Comment. The trucks seen on Baerensteinerstrasse belong to an MVD unit in Schwarzenberg.

25X1A 4. [ ] Comment. Another source, on 2 July, reported the Zeithain troop training grounds only lightly occupied. It, therefore, had been believed that the units of the 9th Tank Div which had been stationed there since April, had returned to their garrisons. See [ ] Information in the present report, however, tends to indicate that the troops did not return to the Meissen post.

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5. [ ]

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